



January newsletter Tabor RDFZ exchange March 11th-19th 2018



Passports and visas We need your passports by January 15th. As soon as we have all of them, we will send them to our New York City agency to apply for tourist visas at the Chinese Consulate in New York. The total visa cost is \$180 and it is included with the trip cost. You will need to complete the online visa application, print it out, and give it to us. We will take your visa photo at the first program orientation session on Wednesday, January 24th. If you are under age 18, and your parents are nearby, we will sign the visa application form for you.



home stays Eight RDFZ families have volunteered to welcome our 8 students into their homes for the week. In some cases you might stay with one host family on the weekend, and another during weekdays, since they may live a distance from the school. Please be a good guest and adjust to the room arrangements suggested by the family. Apartments in China may be smaller than your own home, and in some cases the family will change their rooms in order to be sure that you are comfortable. Please see the “being a good home stay guest” sheet with suggestions for a successful home stay.

Orientation On Wednesday January 24th please come to the International Center at 6:30 PM for the first orientation session, an introduction to the environment and culture in Beijing. Please spend a few minutes to create and email to me or post on GoogleDocs before the Wednesday meeting one or two Powerpoint slides with your partner on the topic listed below. Please include the topic name, an image, purpose, some history, a distinguishing feature, and anything controversial or interesting about it.

- Pollution & China's "green" efforts – Lainie Cederholm, Nate Chandler
- Beijing's 3 most important locations – Amber Harris, Sierra Petrocelli
- Chinese food and etiquette – Yujin Hong, Lina Reid
- Tiananmen Square – Blake Roberts, Caroline Usman



Travel logistics: We will depart in a minibus from the flagpole at 6:00 AM on Sunday March 11th. Our flight details are listed at our Wikispaces page rdfzexchange2018.wikispaces.com We will arrive on Monday afternoon March 12th at Beijing Capital International Airport, where RDFZ will meet us and send us to our home stays. We will return at 9:32 PM on Monday March 19th to Boston, with transportation provided back to Tabor. Dorms will be open.



Forms and Permissions Parents will receive program forms and medical information to complete from Tabor's Health Center. If you are under 18 years old, your parents also need to sign and have notarized permission for you to travel with Tabor faculty on an airplane, and to enter China. We will email this document to your parents. Please check your health insurance to make sure that it covers regular medical care in China. Tabor carries emergency evacuation and emergency care insurance only. You may also want to purchase trip cancellation insurance on your own, as Tabor does not carry it.

